



Friday  
April 22, 2010

# Weekly Views

Chief Ronay opened the ICA conference at Martin University with the theme "Aligning the Stars for Endless Possibilities". Commissioner Buss also represented the agency on a panel that discussed dealing with collaboration between criminal justice stakeholders.

To honor Crime Victims' Rights Week, Pendleton Juvenile's special needs unit created a Popsicle sculpture representing child abuse victims who died in 2007 and the Faith Based Unit created a paper chain for each crime victim that was killed last year. Students at South Bend Juvenile also planted 200 donated trees in honor of Crime Victims' Rights Week.

The Sullivan County Sheriff's Department (SCSD) received over 30 confiscated cell phones from the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility. A special presentation was made by Superintendent James Basinger, who indicated this is just the first installment, giving the phones a new beneficial calling by distributing them to seniors and victims of abuse.

The Indianapolis District #3 Parole Office participated in Operation Crime Hot Spots City-Wide Sweep, in conjunction with the Indianapolis Department of Public Safety, which resulted in one new arrest for a technical parole violation and two collateral arrests for Possession of Cocaine and Marijuana.

The Plainfield Correctional Facility hosted a Volunteer Appreciation Dinner for those who give so selflessly, their time and energy for the benefit of the facility. Donna Olsen was recognized by Superintendent Knight as Volunteer of the Year.

The Correctional Industrial Facility is hosting its seventh Kairos Weekend. 38 volunteers and 43 offenders are anticipated to participate in the four day event.

Westville Correctional Facility currently has two interns from Valparaiso University and will receive seventeen student nurses from Valparaiso, two doctoral candidates from Argosy University, and one intern from Loyola University this summer. This represents about 2000 hours of free annual labor plus potential correctional career development.

The first of PEN Product's six, one-day Offender Workforce Development regional training programs was held at the Vigo County Ivy Tech campus.

Staff from Fort Wayne Police Department's Victims Assistance judged posters made by students at Northeast Juvenile for Crime Victims' Rights Week. The winning poster will be printed on a T-Shirt for the next FWPD Victims Assistance Campaign.

The Correctional Training Institute hosted the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) "Thinking for a Change" Train the Trainer program. A total of 18 IDOC and Community Corrections staff completed the program, and received certification as NIC "Thinking for a Change" Instructors.

Representatives from the Joyce Meyer Ministry visited Rockville, Putnamville, and Plainfield Correctional Facilities. At Rockville and Putnamville, hygiene bags, paper back books, and religious pamphlets were presented. At Plainfield Correctional Facility a retreat and special service was held for offenders committed to making a change in their lives through faith.

Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility hosted an Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program graduation ceremony where 12 residents and 17 IUPUI students were honored for successfully completing the six week course.

Forty-two offender graduates of the PLUS Program were honored at a graduation ceremony at the Pendleton Correctional Facility.

Rockville Correctional Facility raised \$800 in a silent auction to benefit the Correctional Peace Officer Fund.

Branchville Correctional Facility collected 35 units of blood at a Blood Drive for the American Red Cross.

Miami Correctional Facility held a two-day fundraiser for Employees Appreciation Week where staff were served pulled pork barbeque sandwiches with chips, a pickle and a drink.

Students from Purdue University, Indiana University South Bend, Wabash Ivy Tech, and Indiana Wesleyan toured Miami Correctional Facility to learn more about corrections and prison life.

Kairos visited the Plainfield Correctional Facility, giving 42 offenders the opportunity to take part in a weekend-long event, designed to enhance an offender's spiritual growth. More than 50 volunteers came to the facility to spread the work of their ministry.